



U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Lockheed P-3 Orion Long Range Tracker (LRT)

FACT SHEET



The P-3 Long Range Tracker (LRT) aircraft are high-endurance, all-weather, tactical turbo-prop aircraft used by the Office of Air and Marine (OAM) to intercept and track airborne smuggling threats. The P-3 LRT is used by OAM to perform missions such as aerial patrol and surveillance. With the escalation of terrorist threats and the commitment of Department of Defense P-3 aircraft in other regions of the world, OAM P-3s have assumed a significant role in homeland security efforts.

Key to the success of the P-3s are their endurance, small deployment footprint, and extensive sensor array. P-3s are able to take off from runways as short as 8,000 feet and LRT aircraft often fly in tandem with the P-3 AEW. Used in this manner, the P-3 AEW detects and tracks multiple targets and the accompanying P-3 LRT intercepts, identifies, and tracks those suspect targets.

In Fiscal Year 2012, P-3s flew 5,585 hours in support of counter-narcotic missions and detected 123 suspected smuggling vessels and aircraft. P-3s seized or disrupted 117,103 pounds of cocaine worth \$8.76 billion. P-3s detected 15 go-fasts, each of which can carry 500 to 2,000 pounds of cocaine.

Video recorders document suspect activities for evidentiary use.

Performance and Weights:

- **Maximum Speed**
405 knots (466 mph)
- **Service Ceiling Altitude**
28,000 feet
- **Range**
4,000 nautical miles (4,603 miles)
- **Endurance**
12 hours
- **Maximum Gross Weight**
135,000 pounds
- **Crew**
Eight (pilot, copilot, flight engineer, and radar/sensor operators)

Features:

- Electro-optical/infrared sensor, which allows for crewmembers to maintain awareness of targets in all environments.
- APG 63/66 radar, used for detecting and tracking targets of interest.
- SeaVue Marine Search Radar, which provides increased scanning capability to detect targets from great distances.